

SUGGESTED SPEAKING POINTS

GOVERNOR THOMAS H. KEAN

SCHOLAR-ATHLETES AWARDS ANNOUNCEMENT

STATE HOUSE

TRENTON, NEW JERSEY

JUNE 6, 1985

GOOD AFTERNOON.

ONE OF THE TOP PRIORITIES OF THIS ADMINISTRATION HAS BEEN TO ENCOURAGE EXCELLENCE IN EDUCATION.

WE'VE DONE IT BY RAISING STANDARDS FOR TEACHERS AND STUDENTS.

WE'VE DONE IT BY ATTRACTING NEW TALENT INTO THE TEACHING PROFESSION. WE'VE DONE IT BY ESTABLISHING GOVERNOR'S SCHOOLS TO STIMULATE NEW JERSEY'S MOST GIFTED AND TALENTED HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS. WE'VE DONE IT BY CREATING AN ATTITUDE THAT SAYS THAT EXCELLENCE IS THE STANDARD IN EDUCATION IN NEW JERSEY -- AND MEASURING ALL OUR EFFORTS AGAINST THAT STANDARD, AND NOT ANYTHING LOWER.

TODAY, I'M HERE TO ANNOUNCE A NEW EFFORT TO ENCOURAGE EXCELLENCE IN EDUCATION.

AND I AM DELIGHTED THAT THIS EFFORT IS BEING SPEARHEADED BY TWO OF THE MOST PRESTIGIOUS ORGANIZATIONS IN NEW JERSEY: THE EDUCATIONAL TESTING SERVICE, WHOSE PRESIDENT, GREGORY R. ANRIG, IS WITH ME: AND THE NEW JERSEY STATE INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION (NJSIAA), WHOSE PRESIDENT, DR. PAUL HOUSTON, IS ALSO HERE.

TOGETHER, WE WILL SPONSOR A "NEW JERSEY SCHOLAR ATHLETE" AWARD FOR ONE YOUNG WOMAN AND ONE YOUNG MAN FROM EACH OF THE NJSIASS'S 431 MEMBER SCHOOLS. THAT INCLUDES ALMOST ALL OF NEW JERSEY'S PUBLIC, PAROCHIAL, AND PRIVATE SECONDARY SCHOOLS.

TO QUALIFY FOR THE AWARD, STUDENTS WILL BE REQUIRED TO HAVE WON A MINIMUM OF TWO VARSITY LETTERS DURING THEIR HIGH SCHOOL CAREERS, AND HAVE RANKED ACADEMICALLY IN THE TOP 10% OF THEIR CLASS.

BUT BEYOND THAT, THE WINNERS WILL BE REWARDED FOR MORE  
THAN THAT: THEY WILL BE THOSE STUDENTS WHO HAVE  
DEMONSTRATED CHARACTER, LEADERSHIP, AND SERVICE.

I BELIEVE THAT THIS WILL BE A VERY PRESTIGIOUS AWARD.

I BELIEVE IT SHOWS THAT ACHIEVEMENT IN THE CLASSROOM  
AND ON THE PLAYING FIELD SHOULD BE REWARDED.

AND I BELIEVE IT UNDERLINES THE SPIRIT OF EXCELLENCE  
THAT WE'RE TRYING TO BRING TO NEW JERSEY'S SCHOOLS.

THANK YOU.